

Carlisle Community celebrates the life and legacy of MLK

By USAWC Public Affairs 09 January 2019



Executive Director of the South Central Pa. Sickle Cell council Mr. Joseph Robinson addressed Army War College students, faculty and staff yesterday during the Martin Luther King day Observance. Mr. Robinson talked about MLK as a person, a martyr and

Joseph Robinson addressed Army War College students, faculty and staff yesterday during the Martin Luther King day Observance. Mr. Robinson talked about MLK as a person, a martyr and his message

RELATED LINKS

[The Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change](#)

the Carlisle Community began its Celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observance with guest speaker Mr. Joseph Robinson addressing the Army War College class of 2019, Jan 8 at 1245 in Root Hall's Wil Washcoe Auditorium.

Robinson gave a touching presentation of Dr. Martin Luther King, describing Dr. King first a person with faults and weakness, then King as a martyr then finishing up with King's messages. "Dr. King was no different than you and I, he had the same insecurities, the same shortcomings, the same aspirations," Robinson said. "He did no more than any of us can do - if we are willing to pay the price."

"If we are every going bring to fruition the beloved community that Dr. King envisioned, then we must take a stand, one conversation, one interaction,

one relationship at a time," said Robinson.

Mr. Robinson is the Executive Director of the South Central Pa. Sickle Cell Council, he is responsible for raising public awareness and resources for those affected by the disease in 26 Pa. counties. He chairs the statewide PA Sickle Cell Provider Network and, nationally, serves on the Leadership Council of the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. He also serves the community as President of the Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Development Institute, a local think tank and developer of community leaders trained in the tenets of Dr. King. He also serves on the Harrisburg Public Schools Foundation, NAACP Executive Committee, and New Birth of Freedom Boy Scout Council.

Jan. 20 the town of Carlisle holds their 30th annual MLK commemoration event at 2:30 p.m. outside St. John Episcopal Church in downtown Carlisle, Maj. Gen. John Kem, Commandant of the Army War College will be representing Carlisle Barracks.

Part of the celebration is a march from the St. John Episcopal church to the old courthouse on the square . Keynote speaker Dr. Todd Allen, special assistant for diversity affairs and professor, department of communication studies at Messiah College will address the audience once the march has returned to St. John's.

The U.S. Army strongly embraces diversity as a way to create a system that maximizes individual talents, increases morale and greatly enhances organizational effectiveness. Dr. King's leadership rallied people from all walks of life and awoke a nation to the need for equality, tolerance and justice.

Legislation signed in 1983 marked the birthday of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as a federal holiday. In 1994, Congress designated the Martin Luther King Jr. Federal Holiday as a national day of service and charged the Corporation for National and Community Service with leading this effort. Each year, on the third Monday in January, the MLK Day of Service is observed as a "day on, not a day off." MLK Day of Service is intended to empower individuals, strengthen communities, bridge barriers, create solutions to social problems, and move us closer to Dr. King's vision of a "Beloved Community."

U.S. Army War College News Archives